



GESTA Calls for Intervention To Halt Closure of Visitor Center

Goddard Engineers, Scientists and Technicians Association (GESTA) International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) Local 29, the union representing federal employees at the Goddard Space Flight Center, is calling on Congressional leaders, local government officials, economic stakeholders and the public to take immediate action to stop the proposed closure of the Goddard Visitor Center – a decision that, if enacted, it says would inflict irreparable harm on the community, the regional economy and NASA's public mission.

The Goddard Visitor Center is a premier exploration and learning space that creates “a vital link between space exploration



The NASA Goddard Visitor Center hosts Mission Experiment on the third Saturday of the month between September and May.

and the American public,” a union member stated. Closing the Visitor Center is a devastating decision which would greatly impact public engagement and education about the NASA mission. There are guided programs, tours, virtual field trips and various other programs that serve students in the region as well as from other states and countries. The

Hunts, Family Science Adventure and several others. The Goddard Visitor Center also offers science home-schooling sessions throughout the year.

A Mission-Critical Public Outreach Hub

In 2024 alone, the Goddard Visitor Center achieved the

See NASA, page 11

Visitor Center brings subject matter experts and volunteers who provide a wealth of knowledge to the community via regular monthly programming. Among them are Model Rocket Launch, Science Saturdays, Mission Experiment, Space for Me, Ask a Scientist, HerStory: Women of Goddard, Scavenger

PHOTO COURTESY NASA GODDARD VISITOR CENTER

News Review Needs the Support Of Our Greenbelt Community

by the News Review Board of Directors

We need your help. As the News Review approaches its 88th anniversary as a small independent newspaper, we are facing unprecedented challenges even as our mission to deliver independent news for Greenbelt

is more important than ever. With the disappearance of many other news sources, we have expanded our coverage into areas that we traditionally left to larger papers.

We've offered you important coverage of county schools and

the school board, the fire department, the maglev, FBI Headquarters proposals, ICE and immigration news and the recent turmoil over federal workforce reductions and the impact on Greenbelt. We've filed Public Information Act requests as we follow actions and expenditures of public bodies and officials, holding them accountable to transparency and public interest. We've participated in community partnerships, news panels and more. And this fall, for the first time, we will co-host a forum for city council candidates.

For much of our history, we put out the paper on a shoestring. However, our operating costs have increased and our processes have changed over the last 20

See SUPPORT, page 4

What Goes On

Monday, August 25 to Friday, August 29

City Council Summer Recess: no meetings

Friday, August 29

Labor Day Weekend activities begin

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltnmd.gov for more information.

Water Line Break



PHOTO BY PAT SCULLY

WSSC is on site at Roosevelt Center addressing a service line break at the Greenbelt Cinema early Sunday afternoon, August 17. The New Deal Café was closed all day as the source of the leak was isolated and repairs got underway. The Greenbelt Cinema was also forced to close for the day, as was the restroom at the Co-op Supermarket. At 5 p.m., repairs were progressing and were anticipated to be completed that evening. On August 20, the City of Greenbelt was to host a community meeting toward developing a Community Flood Resiliency Plan.

Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Schedule for Friday, Saturday

by Pat Scully

At 6 p.m. on Friday, August 29, the Ferris Wheel starts turning and the grills start sizzling as the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival returns to the town center. Carnival rides, bingo, fair food, sporting events, music performances, the big parade and a chance to connect with your community and neighbors are all just around the corner. Here's a quick guide to getting the most out of this beloved summer-ending festival. This issue covers the events for Friday and Saturday; next week's issue will focus on events for Sunday and Monday.

Friday, August 29

The Carnival Midway and booths open at 6 p.m., and that's when Bingo starts up on the Community Center lawn, sponsored by Greenbelt Youth Baseball. Special memorial games for bigger cash prize amounts will be announced during the games. These activities happen each day for the remainder of the Festival.

Opening Ceremonies

At 6:30 p.m., the Greenbelt

Police and color guard will lead off the Opening Ceremonies. This will include introduction of dignitaries, a performance of the National Anthem by Melissa Sites and the Outstanding Citizen presentation. There will be a sign language interpreter on stage. A reception for the 2025 Outstanding Citizen follows at 7:15 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

At 8 p.m., brassy multicultural outfit Black Masala takes the main stage, putting on a high-energy show for the Festival's first night.

Saturday, August 30

First thing on Saturday, at 9 a.m., the Greenbelt Museum exhibition on the New Deal art of Lenore Thomas opens and goes until 5 p.m. The two-hour Bricks and Blocks Walking Tour, covering Greenbelt history and architecture, leaves from the Museum at 9 a.m. Visit the museum's website to pre-register.

Always a big draw on

See FESTIVAL, page 12



PHOTO BY JEFFREY ALLEN JONES

The Ferris wheel is silhouetted in the Sunday twilight on Labor Day weekend, 2024.

Public Comment Period for USDA Reorganization Closes August 26

On August 1, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Brooke L. Rollins announced the opening of a 30-day public comment period for stakeholders to provide feedback on the department's reorganization plan, which includes the closure of Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC).

“We value your perspective as we work to ensure that USDA is best positioned to serve America's farmers, ranchers, producers and rural communities,” Rollins said.

“President Trump made clear his second term would include relocating the sprawling federal bureaucracy to locations outside the National Capital Region,” Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden said in his Capitol Hill testimony on July 30, adding the plan

“right-sizes the USDA footprint,” and maintains the department “within the bounds of its available financial resources.” The reorganization proposal relocates approximately 2,600 Washington, D.C., area positions to five regional hubs: Raleigh, N.C.; Kansas City, Mo.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Fort Collins, Colo.; and Salt Lake City, Utah (see the July 31 issue).

How to Submit Comments

Stakeholders, including, but not limited to, USDA employees, members of Congress and agricultural and nutrition partners, are encouraged to provide feedback by emailing reorganization@usda.gov. The comment period is open through Tuesday, August 26.

Information for this article is drawn from a USDA press release.

Letters to the Editor

Who's Being Political?

I visited the Greenbelt Police Station on August 13 to find out what our city's policy is regarding how they can protect law-abiding residents with no criminal history from ICE's practice of targeting individuals for detainment based on racial profiling, violating their constitutional rights to due process.

The Greenbelt police officer I spoke with informed me that they'll only enforce an ICE criminal warrant, but not an ICE civil warrant. But he wouldn't answer my question pertaining to protecting Greenbelt residents who have no criminal history or criminal warrants from abduction by ICE agents whose faces are covered by masks and wearing no visible identification. When I mentioned what other cities are doing in an attempt to protect their residents, the officer mischaracterized what I said as trying to tell the police what to do. He then sarcastically suggested I contact the chief of police since I'm telling them

what to do, and then even suggested I contact ICE. Throughout our entire conversation, I was met with indifference and zero empathy. The officer remarked several times that he'll not get political, as I kept emphasizing the extreme fear experienced by innocent people from ICE's unconstitutional tactics.

I then went to the Municipal Building to speak with staff. Unlike the insensitivity encountered communicating with this officer, I was met with kindness and understanding from the city's Constituent Services Coordinator Gizelle Alvarez. She informed me that the Greenbelt police have no policy regarding protecting residents from ICE who have no criminal history or criminal warrants. "He didn't tell you that?" she asked. "No," I said, commenting, "why didn't the officer just tell me?"

Whatever happened to community policing in Greenbelt, the goal of which was to foster good relationships between our police

and our community's residents?
Name withheld at the request of the author.

Deplores Expensive School Board Action

I am outraged at the School Board's decision to give almost a million dollars to get rid of Millard House as superintendent of our public schools.

Thanks to Anna Bedford-Dillow's excellent reporting on this travesty, we learned some of the details of his brief tenure and at least some of the details of why he got the boot. Why he collected all that money raises real questions about the fiduciary

See **LETTERS**, page 4



Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
AUGUST 22nd - 28th

It's Never Over, Jeff Buckley
(NR) (2025) (106 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM
Sun. 4:50 PM, 7:15 PM
Wed. 5:30 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 5:15 PM, 7:45 PM
Mon. 1:45 PM, 4:15 PM
Tue. 5:00 PM
Thurs. 7:15 PM

Highest 2 Lowest (R) (CC)
(DVS) (2025) (133 mins)

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
Mon. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Tue. 7:00 PM
Thurs. 7:00 PM

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM
Wed. 7:30 PM

Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG)
(1981) (115 mins)
Sponsored by Carl Sanders
and Lizzie Schechter

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 1:45 PM

Jaws (PG) (1975) (130 mins)
Film in Focus | Led by
Dr. Oliver Gaycken

Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Mon. 7:00 PM

Echo in the Canyon (PG-13)
(2018) (82 mins)
Summer Concert Series

Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Wed. 8:00 PM

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

It's Never Over, Jeff Buckley

Directed by Oscar-nominated filmmaker Amy Berg, the film covers the life of the rising young star with an otherworldly voice and boundary-pushing artistry, who left the '90s music world reeling when he died suddenly, at age 30, after the release of his critically acclaimed debut album Grace. Told through never-before-seen footage from Buckley's archives and intimate accounts from his mother Mary Guibert, former partners Rebecca Moore and Joan Wasser, Jeff's former bandmates, including Michael Tighe and Parker Kindred, and luminaries like Ben Harper and Aimee Mann, the documentary illuminates one of modern music's most influential and enigmatic figures.

Highest 2 Lowest

When a titan music mogul (Denzel Washington), widely known as having the "best ears in the business," is targeted with a ransom plot, he is jammed up in a life-or-death moral dilemma. Washington and Spike Lee reunite for the fifth in their long working relationship for a reinterpretation of the great filmmaker Akira Kurosawa's crime thriller High and Low, now played out on the mean streets of modern-day New York City. "Denzel: he's one name now. He can do no wrong," said critic Roger Friedman of Showbiz 411. "Even with Jeffrey Wright seriously trying to pull attention as the second banana, Denzel knows to pay out his charms slowly. By the time he builds to a crescendo, you see what greatness on film can be."

Raiders of the Lost Ark

Dr. Indiana Jones, a renowned archeologist and expert in the occult, is hired by the U.S. government to find the ark of the covenant, which is believed to still hold the Ten Commandments. Unfortunately, Hitler's agents are also after the ark. Indy and his ex-flame Marion escape from various close scrapes in a quest that takes them from Nepal to Cairo.

Jaws

When a young woman is killed by a shark while skinny-dipping near the New England tourist town of Amity Island, police chief Martin Brody (Roy Scheider) wants to close the beaches, but mayor Larry Vaughn (Murray Hamilton) overrules him, fearing that the loss of tourist revenue will cripple the town. Ichthyologist Matt Hooper (Richard Dreyfuss) and grizzled ship captain Quint (Robert Shaw) offer to help Brody capture the killer beast, and the trio engage in an epic battle of man vs. nature. "Once released, Jaws wasn't just a blockbuster hit – it was a phenomenon, a 'super-blockbuster', in the words of Variety," said Zach Shonfeld. "It became the first movie to break \$100 million at the box office (displacing The Godfather as the highest-grossing film up to that point). It captivated the media. It instilled in viewers such an acute fear of sharks that beach attendance took a well-documented hit."

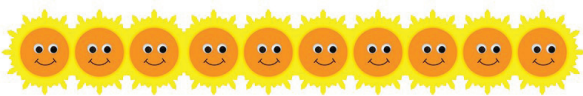
Echo in the Canyon

This film offers a look at how musical groups such as The Byrds, The Beach Boys, Buffalo Springfield and The Mamas & the Papas birthed the beginnings of the Laurel Canyon music scene and how the echo of these artists' creations reverberated across the world. Said film critic Charlotte O'Sullivan of the London Evening Standard, "A celebration of the folk-rock-pop explosion in the West Coast in the mid-Sixties, this documentary-cum-concert movie is tailor-made for music geeks."

PETE REPERT



MY AI ASSISTANT JUST QUIT
WITH TWO WEEKS' NOTICE.



Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Community Events

Festival Pet Show



Previous Pet Show sponsored by Girl Scout Troop 23007 at Labor Day Festival

Do you think your pet is special? We do too! Girl Scout Troop 23007 invites you to bring your pet to the Labor Day Festival Pet Show on Saturday, August 30 on the Community Center Lawn. Rain or shine. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Pet presentations start at 10 a.m. with award certificates to follow. Dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, rats, snakes and more – all types and sizes of pets are welcome. Share with us what makes your pet special and see them get the recognition they deserve.

Retro Town Fair Returns



Some entries from 2024.

The Greenbelt Museum will host the Retro Town Fair again on Sunday, August 31 at the Museum grounds at 10 Crescent Road. It has been a fabulous growing year, and we can't wait to see all the gorgeous produce and more.

Categories and hours are the same as last year, with drop-offs from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Judging will be done from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The public will be welcome to come in at 1 p.m. and admire the handiwork and talents of their Greenbelt neighbors and friends.

The Retro Town Fair was started in 2012, on the occasion of Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary. It is an homage to the Town Fairs that were held in early Greenbelt at the behest of the new residents eager to show off their gardening prowess. It is all in good fun and works as a community building experience. Ribbons are awarded and bragging rights will last forever. The fair accepts needlework, baked goods, canned goods, home-grown produce, crafts, flowers and more. Check the website, Greenbeltmuseum.org, for entry forms and more information. See everyone at the fair!

Register Now for Art & Photo Show

Registration is open for the Art and Photo Shows at the Labor Day Festival. See page 12 for more information.



Luncheon on the Lawn Returns Labor Day

The Greenbelt Community Church, at the corner of Hillside and Crescent Roads, will once again be serving luncheon immediately following the Parade on Labor Day, September 1. A meal of barbecue sandwich or hot dog with baked beans, coleslaw, dessert and beverage will be served in the Social Hall and outdoors in shaded areas, weather permitting. Families are welcome. There is a fee for the lunch with proceeds funding the charitable efforts of the church.

The church will also be hosting a booth during Information Day in Roosevelt Center on Saturday, August 30. Church members will explain the church's community outreach, social events and inclusive doctrine.

Register by Sunday For Rising Stars

Local performers are invited to share their talents with the community at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Rising Stars Showcase on Sunday, August 31 at 2:30 p.m. Perform on the main stage at the Festival, and have the chance to win a cash prize. Find out more at Greenbeltlaborday.com. Register by August 24.

PTA Book Sale

Declutter and support a local elementary school. For those whose bookshelves are overflowing, the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA will be collecting used books to sell at its Annual Used Book Sale at the Labor Day Festival.

Book donations will be accepted on Saturday, August 23 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church, 135 Crescent Road. All books (except manuals, encyclopedias and dictionaries) as well as CDs, DVDs, records, puzzles and games will be accepted.

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/GES-PTA-Book-Sale, or email questions to booksalegespta@gmail.com.

Register by Friday To March in Parade

The Festival Parade will take place on Monday, September 1 from 10 a.m. to noon. The parade route is along Crescent Road, from Greenhill Road to Southway. Organizations, clubs and other groups are encouraged to participate. Visit greenbeltlaborday.com/parade for more information and to register. The deadline to register is Friday, August 22.

Park and Ride Free Bus For Labor Day Festival

Avoid parking problems at this year's Labor Day Festival. Park and ride the free shuttle bus. See page 12 or visit greenbeltlaborday.com for more information.

Call for Festival Art Gallery Volunteers



PHOTO BY MATTHEW HANSON

Elephant of Hearts, a rug-hooking by Judith Kornett, will be part of the display at the art gallery during the Labor Day Festival.

Greenbelt Recreation Arts invites high school students and adults to volunteer at the Community Center art gallery during the Labor Day Festival. Gallery attendants will greet visitors and facilitate a hands-on art activity. The featured exhibition will be a whirlwind of colorful rug-hookings, collages and prints by Judith Kornett, a former Greenbelt resident and Greenbelt Recreation instructor.

In addition, on Monday, September 1, the Arts Advisory Board will host an arts mixer in the gallery from 2 to 4 p.m. Gallery hours will align with the Festival's Art and Photo Shows happening nearby in the auditorium.

Volunteer time slots are relatively short; stop by before enjoying the Festival or take a break from the heat. No experience necessary, just reliability, a friendly demeanor and enthusiasm for the art. Service credit is available for participating students.

See examples of Kornett's work and learn more about her at her website: judithkornettarts.com.

For more information and to sign up, visit sugeni.us/eZo7. For more information about Greenbelt arts programs, visit greenbeltmd.gov/arts.

At the Library

Greenbelt Library's regular hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 1 to 5 p.m.

Storytimes

Friday, August 22, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749407.

Wednesday, August 27, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749352.

Thursday, August 28, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at pgcmls.info/event/13749384.

Passports

Greenbelt Library serves as a U.S. Passport Acceptance Facility. Applications are accepted by appointment only; schedule a 30-minute appointment by calling 240-455-5451 or visiting pgcmls.info/passport-services. Customers may call the Greenbelt Library directly at 301-345-5800 for their reference inquiries and to book passport service appointments during regular Library operating hours.

Resources

Customers can access Library resources with a PGCMLS Library card number or a LINK card number for Prince George's County Public Schools students. Virtual library card registration is open to Prince George's County residents. Participants can explore suggested summer reads on the Library's Beanstack, NextReads and Book List platforms.

Astronomical Society Hosts Panel Discussion

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a panel on science and budget cuts on Thursday, August 28 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 114 of the Community Center. A group of local scientists will discuss how the budget cuts will affect the future of scientific advancements and the local economy.

The meeting is free and open to the public. All are welcome. Children should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

HousingCoalitionMeets Saturday, August 23

The Prince George's County Housing Coalition will meet on Saturday, August 23 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. This meeting is sponsored by the Greenbelt Black History and Culture Committee and is free and open to Greenbelt residents.

Greenbelt Chess Club Meets Tuesday

The Greenbelt Chess Club will meet on Tuesday, August 26 at the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels. To be added to the club's mailing list, go to tinyurl.com/ycy2nz4m and complete the brief form. Email questions to greenbeltchessclub@gmail.com.

Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

Golden Age Club

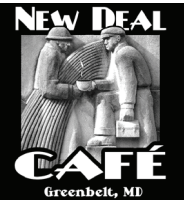
The Golden Age Club meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. Bingo is featured at the August 27 meeting.



This Week at the New Deal Café

Celebrating 30 Years in Greenbelt, 1995-2025!

BECOME A MEMBER!*



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD
Monday, 9am-9pm; Tuesday—Thursday, 9am - 10pm; Friday/Saturday, 9am – 12midnight;
Sunday, 9am – 9pm

TH 8/21	FRI 8/22	SAT 8/23	SUN 8/24	
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm The Classic Jam w/ The Low Rent Quartet 6:30-9:30pm Jam with the band!	Built 4 Comfort 8 - 11pm WAMMIE-nominted group plays a variety of covers in their own sassy style!	NDC JAZZ JAM, 2 - 5pm Dave Chappell Band 8 - 11pm Multiple WAMMIE-award winning roots rock and blues for a night to remember	ASL BRUNCH, 10:30a-12pm Green Eggs & Ham 6 - 8pm 40th Anniversary Show. The best rockin' acoustic country blues	
MON 8/25	TUES 8/26	WED 8/27	TH 8/28	New Deal Cafe
LIVE BAND KARAOKE 6 - 9pm COME ON OVER and show us what ya got!	NDC Open Mic w/ Carla Monardes 6:30 - 9:30pm Sign-ups at 6:15pm Play music, read poetry...	Kim's Grand Rounds-A Songwriters' Circle 7 - 9pm Host: Kim Eaton	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm Deb B & Friends 7 - 9pm Expect anything: Blues, Roots, Jazz - any song with soul	IT'S THE CAFE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY! Visit our donations page to help fund our October celebration festival!

*Join NDC! Go to NewDealCafe(dot)com, click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR. DON'T FORGET TO TIP THE BANDS!

SUPPORT continued from page 1

years or so in ways that make this very difficult. We had to hire several skilled employees to do the essential work of preparing the files for the printer, work that must be done at a set time every week without fail or there's no paper that week – and that's not an option.

Eventually, we also needed to hire a part-time managing editor, which again increased our cost but improved our journalism. With our expanded reporting, with so many more complex stories to cover, this role has also expanded, as evidenced by the depth and liveliness of the paper.

We now print in color and can print more photos, which were few and far between in the era of hot-type press and only black ink. Our readers love the photos, sending us their shots of events, people, animals and plants in Greenbelt and of their journeys around the world with the News Review. Lots of photos make for livelier, more interesting papers, but also bigger, more costly papers.

Throughout our history, we have funded our operations through the sale of advertising. But if we have more copy that "has to run this week" than will fit in the number of pages we can pay for, we will often choose to add more pages, again increasing our costs.

We have taken steps to try to regain our self-sufficiency, such as increasing our advertising rates and applying for grants, including one that will help us try out ways to reach potential new advertisers. While we have been surviving due to reserves that we accumulated over the years, we cannot keep drawing them down. (In fiscal year 2024, despite a

generous ARPA grant to fund the paper's new website, we still lost \$6,459.)

So, here we are, hat in hand, asking our readers for their financial support. We offer several ways to make a contribution. Visit our website and click on Help Us on the home page and Contribute on the next page. You can also put cash or checks (made out to Greenbelt News Review) through our mail slots at the News Review office in the Community Center or the dropbox in the Co-op Supermarket or mail checks to Greenbelt News Review, 15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Because we are not a 501(c)(3) organization, but a workers co-operative, contributions to us are not tax deductible.

We are offering small gifts as "thank you" to contributing readers and to enable you to proudly display your support: car magnets for a \$10 donation, your choice

of a coffee mug or cotton tote bag for \$52 contributions, or all three for \$120. Visit us at Information Day during the Labor Day Festival to see some samples.

Another way to show your support is to take out an ad expressing appreciation for the paper or recognizing someone's birthday or anniversary. Don't wait for Valentine's Love Notes. We'll recognize our contributors in our late November anniversary issue. And do patronize our advertisers and let them know you're pleased to support businesses that support the News Review.

We've produced a weekly paper, free of charge to Greenbelt every week since November 1937 and with your support we can continue to bring great journalism to Greenbelt. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to provide the best news coverage we can to you, our readers.



PHOTO BY AMY KNESEL



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Chris Cherry, Greenbelt Recreation's performing arts coordinator, all Creative Kids Camp campers signed a card for him, presented by Olivia Guerreri.

Toby Liska and his sons Myles (4 months) and TJ (2) celebrate Toby's new White Coat as he begins medical school at Georgetown University. Wife and mom Summer Liska looks on from the lower right corner.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Letters cont'd from p.2

responsibility practiced by our school board and county government.

That \$877,578.70 wasted on this could have paid for raises for hardworking, dedicated teachers or field trips to enrich our children's school experience or dozens of other deserving positive goals.

The new interim hire looks like not a better choice. Nothing like following one expensive disaster with another.

Perhaps the board could consider hiring for this position in

a different light. Why not choose from the best PGCPs school principals, those dedicated people who know our schools' challenges and opportunities and have demonstrated competence, familiarity and a concern for the teachers and students?

I think we might just get better results this time.

It also might help make paying my sky-high property taxes a little more palatable.

Kudos to the News Review for its important journalism.

Frank Gervasi

GCB Begins a New Season September 8

The Greenbelt Concert Band (GCB) begins its new season on Monday, September 8 in Room 201 of the Community Center at 6:30 p.m. (open house) and 7 to 9 p.m. (rehearsal). All concert band instrumentalists are welcome – especially clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, baritone and tuba players. Whether ready to play, listen in or just stop by and say hello, we'd love to see you.

Band Aides Needed

The Band Aides is a fun and friendly team that helps with promoting free concerts and events; assists with set-up, hospitality and outreach; and cheers on the band as part of the musical family. No musical experience is required. Visit greenbeltconcertband.org or email gcb-manager@greenbeltconcertband.org to learn more.

Craft, Vendor Show Coming to Fire Hall

The Spooktacular Craft and Vendor Show is coming to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, 125 Crescent Road, on Sunday, October 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Greenbelt VFD Ladies Auxiliary, hosting the event, has a few tables still available to rent. Email Kim Lewis at gvfdrsla@gmail.com for reservation information and inquiries.

The craft and vendor show is filled with wonderful arts and crafts. Get a head start on holiday shopping.



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors
Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
301-474-5410
Pastor Evelyn Romero



Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Season of Rest

St. John's Episcopal Church
11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704
301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for
Worship & Sunday School
at 10:00 AM



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

We Are an Open and Affirming Church



GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH
One Hillside Road

Join Us Sunday 10:15 AM for Worship

www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm – 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US
135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org



*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org

"The axis around which life revolves is love, while the axis around which death and destruction revolve is animosity and hatred." – 'Abdu'l-Bahá

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Community Center Room 114
15 Crescent Rd
cathcomgreenbelt.org
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community

OR - Join us on ZOOM!
For ZOOM link: [CCG1985-owner@groups.io](https://ccg1985-owner@groups.io)

The Bible Says...

'Do not fear, for I am with you;
Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you, surely I will help you,
Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'
Isaiah 41:10



Sunday Worship Services
10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Rd.)
MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

August 24, 2025 at 3 p.m.
Annie Bizzell Jordan: Faith Formation for Transformation

Ebony Peace with Worship Associate Lula Beatty

"It takes a village," is a well-known African proverb often applied to raising children, and yet adults also need community to thrive. Faith formation and spiritual development for adults, youth, and children matter more than ever. What do our new values call us to learn? How can we serve the larger world with certainty when our faith tradition continues to shift and change? By reflecting on the religious education ministry of Annie Bizzell Jordan Willis, we will explore leadership and Faith Formation for Transformation.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

MEETINGS FOR AUGUST 25-29

Modnay, August 25, **NO MEETING - COUNCIL SUMMER RECESS**

Tuesday, August 26 at 3:30 pm, **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE** *On the Agenda: Discussion on Open Forum Event*

Tuesday, August 26 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,** *On the Agenda: Labor Day Parade, Report on Council's Work Session with Advisory Committee Chairs, Grants Planning*

Wednesday, August 27, **NO MEETING - COUNCIL SUMMER RECESS**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

UPCOMING NATURE EVENTS

Gardening Get Togethers. Every Wednesday through October, 10am-12pm. *Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.* Join City Staff and Community Members as we work to maintain the Pollinator Gardens at Buddy Attick Park! Activities will include mulching, weeding, and planting native perennial species. [Sign-up](#) here.

Kayaking on Greenbelt Lake at Buddy Attick Park. Saturday, August 23, 8am-1:30pm, *Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.*

Birding 101. Saturday, September 6, 10am-1pm, *Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.* Have you ever wanted to try birding but don't know where to begin? We will go over keys to bird identification, choosing and using binoculars, as well as using different mobile apps in the field. [Sign-up](#) today!

National Public Lands Day. Saturday, September 27, 10am-1pm. *Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.* Join the City of Greenbelt's Department of Public Works and Park Rangers as we care for and celebrate the public lands we share! [Sign-up](#) here.

Questions & comments to kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2168.

CURRENT CARES PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge. For more information, email Brendy Maddox at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (202) 670-6497.

- FALL PREVENTION CAMPAIGN KICK OFF EVENT.** Th, Sept 25, 1-3 pm. Premiere & Film Screening of "Saving Claire" and panel discussion with experts in fall prevention and senior care.
- OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ADULTS** 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required.
- DEMENTIA WEBINARS** 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/13 at 7 pm on Zoom.
- FREE MONTHLY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION.** Greenbelt Residents Only. First time participants must provide proof of residency, state-issued ID, birth certificate (or copy) for each child.
- AGING SOLO.** Sept 24, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 1-2:30pm on Zoom. Learn to set priorities, build your support network, and put your plans into action.
- PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION** at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, Lower Level Parking Lot, 25 Crescent Road
- Produce Distribution** at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Ln (*Greenbelt West Residents Only*)

SENIOR DAY AT SPRINGHILL LAKE RECREATION CENTER Friday, September 19 at 11 am

Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

Join us as we kick off exciting new senior programs at Springhill Lake Recreation Center with a fun and informative day just for you! Enjoy games of Bingo, discussion on foods that fight cancer, an Ageless Grace exercise session, and more.

All are welcome to attend. Free, light refreshments will be served. Come connect, learn, and have a great time!

For more information, contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at (240) 542-2056 or via email at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov.

LET'S DANCE LINE DANCING NEW DATE! Saturday, September 6 at 6 pm

Come out and line dance at Roosevelt Center! Line dancing instructor, Mayra Morgan-Martin, will lead us as we learn steps and dance our hearts out!



70TH ANNUAL GREENBELT LABOR DAY FESTIVAL!
Friday, August 29-Monday September 1
Roosevelt Center, 131 Centerway

Join us this Labor Day Weekend for the 70th Annual Greenbelt Labor Day Festival! Opening ceremonies begin Friday night where the winner of the Greenbelt Citizen of the Year will be announced. Enjoy food trucks, bingo, carnival rides, and more all weekend long. The event culminates with the Labor Day Festival Parade on Monday, September 1 as floats make their way from the Greenbelt Police Department to the Municipal Building at 25 Crescent Road.

Ride Vouchers
\$20 wristband vouchers are on sale at Greenbelt Co-op, now through August 28. These vouchers are exchanged for a wristband for unlimited rides from opening until 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Buy before they go up to \$35!

Find out more at greenbeltlaborday.com!

LABOR DAY RECREATION ACTIVITIES Friday, August 29-Sunday August 31

Youth Center & Braden Field

Games and fun for all ages. Begins Friday at 6pm with an adult table tennis tournament! Saturday & Sunday there are events for the entire family such as balloon waddle race, a pie eating contest (*Mayor Jordan is the reigning champion!*), sack race, cornhole tournament, and so much more.

Learn more at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar or email asesay@greenbeltmd.gov.

TRAFFIC ADVISORY: GREENBELT LABOR DAY PARADE ROUTE CLOSURE

The City of Greenbelt will host its annual Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 1, bringing festive celebrations and temporary traffic adjustments.

Road Closure Details: Crescent Road, between Westway and Ridge Road, will be closed to all traffic during the parade.

Travel Tips:

- Expect detours and delays in the area
- Please plan ahead and allow extra travel time
- For transit updates and alternate routes, visit the WMATA website

Thank you for your cooperation as we celebrate safely and smoothly!

GREENBELT ELECTION INFORMATION

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION DATES & DEADLINES: 2025 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

First day to receive papers and file nomination petition	8/18
Last day to file nomination petition (by 5pm)	9/22
Date of drawing for placement on ballot – 7pm	9/22
First Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	9/26
First day to send out mail-in ballots	10/3
Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30pm Upper Marlboro)	10/6
Second Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	10/24
Early Voting begins .	11/1-11/2
Training session for Election Judges and Clerks	11/3
Election 7am-8pm	11/4
Mail-in ballots must be received by 6pm	11/4
Final Contributions & Expenditures Report (12pm)	11/7
Charter Meeting for swearing-in at 7:30pm	11/10

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION VOTER REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Great News: Non-Citizen Residents Can Vote in the 2025 Greenbelt City Council Election by Registering with the City Clerk!

Greenbelt residents are reminded that to participate in the 2025 City Council election - whether as a voter, a candidate for City Council, or a signer of a petition for a candidate - you must be registered to vote. U.S. citizens must be qualified and registered to vote in Prince George's County. Non-citizen residents of Greenbelt may also participate by registering to vote with the City Clerk or by accessing the non-citizen voter registration forms available on the City's website.

To register, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States of America or Non-citizen of Greenbelt
- Be at least 16 years of age
- Be domiciled within the corporate limits of the City of Greenbelt as of the date of registration
- Have completed any court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, parole, or probation if convicted of a felony
- Not be under guardianship for mental disability

For information about registering to vote in Prince George's County, contact the County Board of Elections at (301) 430-8020 or visit www.elections.state.md.us. Forms for voter registration for non-citizens are available on the city website, Voter Registration | Greenbelt, MD.

All registration forms must be submitted by the deadlines: citizen voter forms to the Prince George's County Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro by 4:30 pm on Monday, October 6, and non-citizen voter forms to the Greenbelt City Clerk's Office by 4:30 pm on Wednesday, October 15.

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk by phone at (301) 474-8000 or elections@greenbeltmd.gov.

*If you are already registered to vote in Prince George's County but have moved or changed your name since the last election, you must complete an application to have this information changed. **This can also be done online at www.elections.state.md.us.*

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION NOMINATIONS FOR 2025 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

In accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter, a regular election will be held in the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, to elect the seven members of the City Council.

Any qualified voter of the City may be nominated for the office of Member of Council upon filing a nomination petition with the City Clerk (signed by not fewer than 50 Greenbelt resident voters), a written acceptance of the nomination, and other statements that are required by the City Charter or by law. Required forms and information are available at 25 Crescent Road, beginning Monday, August 18, from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.

**NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM
MONDAY, AUGUST 18 THROUGH MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025.**

For additional information, call Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000, or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

FEATURED PET - DAKOTA

Ready for Adoption? Call (301) 474-6124.

4-year-old Dakota was found as a stray and was pretty nervous when she first arrived at the shelter. But she's really come out of her shell over the last few weeks and has blossomed into a goofy, affectionate dog! She's still a bit shy around strangers and energetic dogs, so we recommend slow introductions with everyone. Dakota is also a great leash-walker, non-reactive on walks, and potty trained!

If you're interested in meeting this magical girl, call us at (301) 474-6124 or email animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov!



FREE SENIOR PLANET CLASSES - MEDIA & HEALTH For adults 60+. FREE. In-Person, Mondays, 11am-12:30pm Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Rd

- September 8.** Tech Tips for Disaster Preparedness
- September 22.** Navigating Medicare Resources
- October 6.** Managing Online Privacy

Register: bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov | (202) 670-6497.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Charter Review Task Force, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today! Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

Volunteer for Labor Day Art Gallery. 8/30-9/1. Enjoy a new exhibit and hands-on activities in the Art Gallery at the Greenbelt Community Center while visiting the Festival! Volunteer to be a gallery greeter/activity host: sugeni.us/eZu7.

September Artful Afternoons. 9/7, 1-3pm Buddy Attick Lake Park and 9/14, 1:30-2:30pm Springhill Lake Recreation Center. Join Greenbelt Recreation Arts and the Greenbelt Park Rangers for a nature themed photo scavenger hunt. More information and sign up at sugeni.us/eZ8v.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- Fall Registration**
Greenbelt residents can sign-up now! Non-resident registration opens 8/26.
- Parents Night Out Greenbelt Community Center,** Upcoming dates: 8/29, 9/12, 9/26
- Art Share (Meet-Up)**
9/7 9/19, 7-8pm, *Greenbelt Community Center*

TAKE CONTROL TO REDUCE SCAMS: CHOOSE YOUR TOOLS OF EMPOWERMENT

Learn how to spot and reduce scams, increase your cyber awareness, and discover tools to protect your personal information. Presented by Aileen Kroll, a long-time advocate for seniors and persons with disabilities. Aileen has served as a dedicated social worker and, after attending law school, has continued her advocacy through legal and community support.

Together, we'll explore how to support one another and build a stronger, more informed community.

Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov or via email at (240) 542-2056.

PINK PANTRY

The Pink Pantry provides free menstrual products to Greenbelt residents, including pads, tampons, and wipes from trusted brands like Cora, Always, Rael, HoneyPot, and more!

To receive these products, register by contacting Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

CAREGIVER NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Your feedback will help us better understand your needs and how we can support you. Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/4e5F6ds to get started! **The deadline to complete the survey is September 3.**

For more information, contact Brendy Garcia at (202) 670-6497 or bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov.

Brought to you by Dementia Friendly America, The Maryland Umbrella Group, Prince George's County Health Department, and the City of Greenbelt.

City Council Receives Updates From City Manager and Police

by Deanna Dawson

At the August 4 worksession, the Greenbelt City Council received updates from City Manager Josué Salmerón on ongoing activities and accomplishments of city administration and departments during the first half of 2025. First, Salmerón introduced Sanjoy Chakraborty, the city’s new information technology (IT) director. Chakraborty, who has 27 years of experience in industry and government, said his goals are to keep things running, protect data and consult with other departments.

Salmerón then gave an overview of accomplishments, and there were many (see agenda packet for this worksession and various reports in the News Review). Council’s questions focused on the activities that had slow progress. Salmerón said that installation of EV charging stations near the Community Center is on hold until the electrical line is connected to the grid. Regarding the WMATA trail, the city is still awaiting state approval of the 90-percent design package. Mayor Emmett Jordan asked about the Greenbelt Cinema upgrades, and Salmerón replied that Maryland Historical Trust has not yet approved the digital marquee that the Cinema would like installed so it’s no longer necessary to climb a ladder to change the names of featured films.

Upcoming Retirement

City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon will soon retire, and Salmerón said the first round of interviews for a replacement are now complete. Recruitment for both the treasurer and IT director was done through the recently implemented Paycor human resources and payroll system. Regarding American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, which must be fully expended by December 2026, Gaymon said she will prepare a detailed report on the status of funds before she leaves. She expects an audit will be done but said they’re prepared for it. When asked by council if ARPA funds could be subject to clawback, Salmerón and Gaymon replied they had heard no talk of it but are aware ARPA funds might be vulnerable.

Police Dept. Activities

Salmerón asked Police Chief Richard Bowers for updates on

the Greenbelt Police Department (GPD) activities. Bowers reported that GPD now has 49 of the 53 staff positions allocated. Officer Irelisse Fernandez recently had completed the FBI National Academy program, and soon every member of the command staff will have received executive leadership training. Bowers then requested GPD officers to describe the work of their teams.

Communications, Outreach

Office Michael Apgar reported that six of eight communications positions are filled. A high proportion of staff time involves providing information for expungement requests referred by courts. Officer Amy Sosa leads the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program at Greenbelt Elementary School and hopes to also offer it at Springhill Lake Elementary.

Officer Erick Alvarez, community liaison with Franklin Park, meets with management there once a week and tries to find solutions for residents who are dealing with domestic abuse or other problems. Most of his time is spent in community engagement, including a week-long summer program, this year for middle school boys.

Rachel Tobin of the crisis intervention team described recent efforts to assist a local unhoused person. Eighteen visits, lasting from about 10 minutes to two hours, were made, and they were able to take the individual for showers, locate some family members and eventually get him to a better situation. Bowers noted that all GPD can do for unhoused individuals is to connect them to resources, as it’s not a crime to sleep outdoors and unless there’s associated criminal activity it’s not really a police matter.

Investigations

Officer Aaron Leathery brought along his canine partner Zeppelin, a German shorthaired pointer. Zeppelin is a sniffer dog, trained to detect handguns and bombs. The pair trains with the Anne Arundel County Sheriff’s Office and Montgomery County Police Department and have made 24 deployments so far, recovering evidence from an armed robbery and assisting other agencies with bomb sweeps and other tasks

while gaining experience. Bowers said GPD is on a waiting list for a second dog, a comfort dog who likely will be paired with Alvarez for community policing.

Officer Michael Parsley spoke about the Special Assignment Team (SAT), which addresses community concerns by covert means. SAT might focus on individuals with open arrest warrants or observe comings and goings at a site where suspected drug activity had been reported. For example, they recently addressed resident concerns about drug activity at a local bus stop. SAT has a partnership with the U.S. Marshals Service, with SAT officers deputized on a part-time basis, helping to track fugitives or assisting with other tasks that broaden their experience.

Officer Fernandez talked about GPD’s four detectives who investigate violent crimes and help traumatized crime victims. They recently executed numerous search warrants and made some key arrests that involved recovery of firearms. Councilmember Rodney Roberts said that he hopes the team is working to solve the Julie Ferguson case, which is now 30 years old. Fernandez responded that with only four detectives, each with 12 to 20 cases, there is little time to work on cold cases. GPD would like

See COUNCIL, page 7

News Briefs

The SPACE Update, Greenbriar Hosts Backpack Giveaway

by Matt Neufeld

There is no confirmed retail tenant currently scheduled to occupy the vacant second-floor space at Beltway Plaza that was most recently occupied by The SPACE, Free Art for All, a mall spokesman said last week.

The SPACE’s officials were told in June that they had one month to vacate that former second-floor space after three-and-a-half years there because a new retail tenant was scheduled to move in. The mall had previously donated the location to The SPACE, which used the expansive, rectangular area for numerous art and community activities.

The mall is currently actively

looking for a new retail tenant to occupy that second-floor location, the spokesman said.

Backpack Giveaway

As the new school year looms officials at the Greenbriar residential community in Greenbelt decided to give something back to the community on Friday, August 15 by holding a free backpack giveaway at the Greenbriar and Glen Oaks Community Center at 7600 Hanover Parkway.

Greenbriar had about 70 brand-new backpacks to give away. At 5:15 p.m. Friday, about 10 people were already in line to take advantage of Greenbriar’s community-oriented generosity.



PHOTO BY GINGER ARCHIBALD

Repairs to the water main break at Roosevelt Center provided free entertainment on Sunday night.

KING LEAR

By William Shakespeare

Scan QR code or visit GreenbeltArtsCenter.org for tickets!

AUGUST 22 – SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

Fridays & Saturdays @ 8pm

Sundays August 31 & September 7 @ 2pm
(Facemasks required)

Pay What You Will!
(min \$5)

Wednesday August 27 @ 8pm

GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

Greenbelt Labor Day Festival
August 29-September 1

Pay-One-Price Ride Wristbands

\$20 at the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket

Available August 4 - August 28

Must redeem at Festival ticket booth on Saturday, August 30 or Sunday, August 31

Opening to 5pm

Ride wristband is good for single day
Subject to cancellation due to weather conditions
No Refunds or Rain Checks

greenbeltlaborday.com

FALL 2025 SEASON

STARTS MONDAY AUGUST 25, 2025

SERVING GREENBELT, LANHAM AND NEW CARROLLTON

AGES 6 TO 12

PRACTICES @ YOUTH MEMORIAL PARK
MONDAY & WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

GAMES @ DRISKELL PARK
SATURDAYS - SEPT 6 - NOV 1

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO & TO REGISTER

WE ARE A 100% VOLUNTEER-RUN ORGANIZATION
VOLUNTEER TO BE A COACH OR ASSISTANT COACH
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

GREENBELTSOCCER.ORG

DISCOUNT FOR GREENBELT & NEW CARROLLTON RESIDENTS

VOLUNTEER NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Greenbelt and Lakeland: An Unfortunate Interpretation

by the Greenbelt Reparations Commission

Eighty years ago, an editorial in the Greenbelt News Review (then known as the Greenbelt Cooperator) commented on the 1945 annexation of the Lakeland community, in an editorial entitled A Chance to Cooperate. The annexation set the foundation for the ensuing injustices experienced by the Lakeland residents. The story behind that editorial follows.

In June 1945, the City of College Park used a ballot question, driven by the University of Maryland, to ask residents about incorporating the City of College Park, which would include the African American community of Lakeland and other small neighboring communities within the borders of the proposed new municipality. Lakelanders voted 173-9 against annexation but were outvoted by the rest of the voters in the College Park area. Incorporation won, and the annexation proceeded despite the wishes of the vast majority of Lakelanders.

The June 8, 1945, Cooperator editorial, A Chance to Cooperate, greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/coop19450608.pdf (p. 2) stated: “Nearby Lakeland, Maryland, unsanitary, ill-lighted and ill-paved, is about to become the first colored settlement in the state to have a voice in electing a mayor and council, under terms of the recent incorporation voted upon by its residents and those of College Park, Calvert Hills, Berwyn, and the Fifth District.”

The editorial discounted Lakeland voters’ overwhelming opposition to incorporation into the newly created City of College Park. The editorial characterized the annexation as an opportunity

for racial cooperation and patronizingly suggested that the African American voters in Lakeland, who had nearly unanimously opposed incorporation, must have been misled: “...it is rumored that certain persons spread an impression throughout the colored community that the University of Maryland, under the incorporation, planned to take from Lakeland its lake front property.”

Subsequent events, including massive urban renewal that destroyed more than two-thirds of the homes and gutted the Lakeland community, proved that the concern of Lakelanders about losing their homes was in fact entirely justified. (For details, see Lakeland Community Heritage Project, lakelandchp.com/history.)

It is perhaps not surprising that Greenbelt residents and the Cooperator in 1945 would have shown disregard for African American voices. After all, African Americans were excluded from living in Greenbelt. Like Greenbelt itself, writers on the newspaper staff at that time were all white and likely had little contact with African Americans, apart from seeing a few workers in town. As observed in an extensive 1944 study by sociologist William Form, Ph.D., African Americans occupied the lowest social status in Greenbelt. The editorial policy of the Cooperator expressly opposed racial bigotry, and yet this editorial reveals a perspective that disregards African American self-determination.

Many Greenbelters consider our town to be progressive and liberal, a place founded on principles of equality. We tend to associate Greenbelt with the hu-

man rights advocacy of Eleanor Roosevelt, whose ideals make her a venerated figure in Greenbelt and worldwide. Those ideals have indeed been a key element of the utopian narrative underlying Greenbelt’s origins.

But these ideals are by no means the whole story. A more comprehensive and accurate account might highlight the disparity between the ideals and the historical reality. An origin story that uncritically accepts the myth of Greenbelt’s egalitarianism is inconsistent with the African American history in the Greenbelt experience. The Greenbelt Reparations Commission, as part of its charge from the Greenbelt voters and city council, is researching to determine the facts about the development of Greenbelt. The commission plans to engage Greenbelt residents in discussions to broaden understanding and awareness of the conflicts that existed and still exist between the utopian progressive ideals of our planned community and the reality of how African American and Indigenous people were harmed.

What can we learn from the fact that ignoring or discounting African American voices and votes in Lakeland 80 years ago was celebrated in Greenbelt as an “opportunity for cooperation”?

Note: This is one of a series of articles prepared by the Greenbelt Reparations Commission to inform residents of its work. Visit greenbeltreparations.info for more information.

COUNCIL continued from page 6

to partner with another agency on cold cases.

Animal Services

Patricia Fillman, head of Animal Services, said that since January she and the other two animal services officers have responded to over 400 calls. They have attended various trainings and done ride-alongs with county shelter employees to strengthen those relationships. In August, a University of Maryland veterinary student is working with them and they hope to get more interns in future. Fillman said that the newly remodeled shelter, which reopened in June (see June 5, 2025 issue), is much improved but space still is limited and they now are at capacity for cats, with 11 currently housed there. Councilmember Jenni Pompei asked what happens to cats that the Greenbelt shelter cannot take and was told that they go to the county shelter.

Council Questions

Jordan asked about the accuracy of crime statistics in the new Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) dashboard (mwco.org/public-safety-and-homeland-security/data-and-tools/crime-dashboard). Bowers said COG draws information directly from the Computer Assisted Dispatch (CAD) system to which police departments report crimes, so the dashboard is highly accurate.

Councilmember Kristen Weaver asked about license plate readers and was told that Pepco needs to connect the electrical boxes to power them, after which the vendor will install cameras. Three readers already are functional, running on solar power.

Pompei asked about GPD’s role in immigration enforcement.

Bowers said that both police general orders and a city ordinance state that GPD cannot assist in civil immigration cases but may assist in cases that involve crime. If GPD officers observe federal immigration enforcement activity they might stop to see what’s going on but their role is only to keep the peace.

Meeting Controversy

Near the end of the meeting, Jordan mentioned that later in the week he would be meeting with the incoming head of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). Roberts, and then Pompei, quickly voiced strong objections, saying that any stakeholder meeting should be with the full council, not just the mayor. Jordan defended his plan saying that he would brief council on what transpired. After Weaver suggested that city staff meet with the MNCPPC head and then brief council, Jordan reluctantly agreed to step back.

Council then moved to go into a closed session to discuss personnel, legal and annexation matters with Salmerón and City Solicitor Todd Pounds.



NEW LISTINGS!

45N Ridge Road – NEW PRICE



2 BD | 2 BA \$360,000

This roomy 2-bedroom brick Greenbelt co-op townhome has been expanded to create a space that could be used as a third bedroom, or a great home office or family room, with a second full bath.

2B Ridge Road



2 BD | 2 BA \$410,000

The charming brick end unit townhome is the kind of home that savvy Greenbelt co-op shoppers can wait literally years for. This gem of a home is one half of a duplex, with a garage on the other end of the row that conveys with the sale.

58C Ridge Road



2 BD | 1 BA \$290,000

This charmer has a very smart addition that includes a second full bath. Plus, a kitchen bump-out brings in more light and extra workspace, and other fun architectural details add flair and practicality to this co-op townhome.

Kim Kash

Realtor®
m 301.789.6294
kim.kash@compass.com

COMPASS



Small Ad

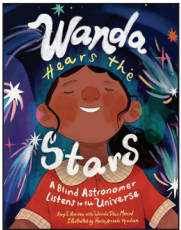
BIG CLOUT

\$34.50

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com

Amy S. Hansen's Latest Book is now on sale!

(Available wherever books are sold)



Book Launch Party

August 23 2-5 p.m.

Old Parish House

4711 Knox Road, College Park

Books for sale

Talk at 3

Activities and food

Also on sale at:

Luncheon on the Lawn

September 1, after the parade

Greenbelt Community Church

1 Hillside Road, Greenbelt

Storytime on Screen

September 13, 2 p.m.

Greenbelt Cinema

129 Centerway, Greenbelt

amyshansen.com

Beginner Scottish Country Dance Class



Wear soft-soled shoes.

September 9-30, 2025

Tuesdays: 7:30 – 9:15 pm

Greenbelt Community Center,

Dance Studio

15 Crescent Rd; Greenbelt, MD

\$30 for 4 weeks.

No partner required.

Email: greenbelt-scd@rscds-greaterdc.org

Website: rscds-greaterdc.org/

GES PTA BOOK SALE

Labor Day Festival

2025

Last chance to donate books!

Drop off at St. Hugh of Grenoble

on August 23rd from 8:30–11:30!!

GES PTA Book Sale

AUG 29TH – SEPT 1ST

Volunteer to help sell books!

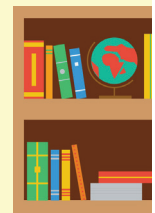


Community Service hours available!

Updates @ <https://tinyurl.com/GES-PTA-Book-Sale>

Questions? booksalegespta@gmail.com

Facebook @ Greenbelt Elementary PTA





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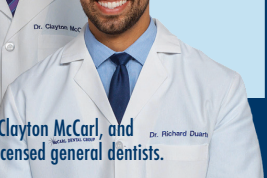
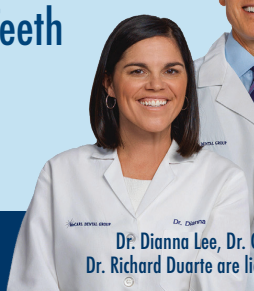
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Dr. Dianna Lee, Dr. Clayton McCarl, and Dr. Richard Duarte are licensed general dentists.

Ridge Road Man Is Arrested For Felony Assault on Officers

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Shortly before 6 a.m. on Saturday, August 16, law enforcement agents convened at Greenbelt Elementary School with eight or more unmarked vehicles. Their appearance caused alarm to some who witnessed the group of vehicles, particularly in the current climate of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activity and federal forces on the streets of Washington, D.C. The officers were members of the U.S. Marshals Service Special Operations Group and the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force executing a warrant for the arrest of a 30-year-old resident who is charged with felony assault of a police officer. He was arrested without incident at 6:15 a.m. at his home address in the 100 block of Ridge Road. The charges stem from an incident in March when officers attempted to stop the Greenbelt man on U Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C. At that time, he fled, hitting two officers with the ATV he was driving, say Metropolitan Police.

According to the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), at approximately 8:14 p.m. on March

14, officers from the Third District attempted to stop a group driving ATVs and dirt bikes in the area of 14th and U Streets, N.W. According to the U.S. Marshals Service, two MPD officers approached as the group of ATVs was parked near the gas pumps of a gas station in that area. The U.S. Marshals say the officers were fully uniformed and, as they approached, one of the individuals, later identified as Gerard Stokes of Greenbelt, accelerated his ATV, raised the front tires in the air and aimed it toward the officers. The U.S. Marshals office reports one of the officers was able to move out of the way, but the other was struck head-on by the ATV and dragged approximately 15 feet across the gas station. Stokes, MPD alleges, then fled the scene without stopping. MPD says two officers were struck by Stokes as he fled the scene. MPD says both officers were transported to a local hospital for treatment.

The officer who sustained serious injuries is still recovering, according to the U.S. Marshals, and has not yet returned to full duty.

On July 15, Greenbelt Police Department supported a multi-agency operation at the same home address in the 100 block of Ridge Road (see the July 17 issue). According to the U.S. Marshals office, during that operation multiple firearms, including rifles, shotguns and pistols as well as 720 rounds of 5.56 ammunition were recovered. On that date, Maryland court records show that Stokes was charged with two misdemeanors: one relating to possession of a rifle or shotgun and one for illegal possession of ammunition. The U.S. Marshals office reports Stokes has a criminal history that includes robbery, aggravated assault and carrying a pistol with a large capacity magazine without a license. Maryland court records suggest the charges following the July 15 police operation were the first to be levied in Maryland.

Man Shot During Rush Hour Road Rage Incident

During rush hour on Tuesday, August 12, a man was shot while driving on Kenilworth Avenue near Edmonston Road in what has been classified as a road rage incident.

At approximately 5:35 p.m., the driver of a newer-model silver or gray four-door Lexus sedan swerved across multiple lanes and almost collided with the victim's car. When the victim confronted the other driver, the man brandished a gun and shot at him. The victim was struck and drove away in an attempt to escape. The suspect followed him, firing two additional shots that hit

the victim's vehicle before fleeing down Greenbelt Road. The victim received medical treatment at a nearby hospital for injuries that were not life-threatening.

The shooter is described as a Black man with dark brown skin, estimated to be in his late 30s or early 40s, driving a silver/gray four-door Lexus sedan. Police are seeking the public's help with the case. Anyone who witnessed this incident or has any information, may contact Detective Fernandez at 240-532-9399 or ifernandez@greenbeltnmd.gov, or reach out to the Greenbelt Police Department at 301-474-7200.



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1 SEPT | Greenbelt Community Church UCC | **AFTER PARADE**
One Hillside Road

Barbecue, cole slaw, baked beans, dessert, drinks

Greenbelt Youth Baseball

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Bingo at the Labor Day Festival

Location: Community Center Lawn

Games: 50¢ for 1 card/game, \$1 for 3 cards/game

Memorial Games and Blackout Games

Pull Tabs!

Come join us, have fun, and WIN

All while supporting the league

City Notes

City manager, council and Constituent Services attended a Meet and Greet with Springhill Lake Elementary and Dora Kennedy French Immersion Schools. Grant coordinator, CARES director and police chief met to discuss a justice assistance grant.

Economic Development hosted Greenbelt's summer hotel/hospitality roundtable and visited eight businesses. Code Enforcement inspected seven commercial suites in Belle Point Office Park and 37 rental properties.

Public Information designed a new brochure for Animal Services and the shelter, now housing four cats, six kittens and four dogs.

At the lake, Environmental/Sustainability held a Gardening Get Together where four volunteers and two rangers helped remove invasive plants. Rangers held a summer kayaking event with 20 participants.

At the indoor pool, contractors rebuilt the hot tub structure.

Recreation concluded summer camps and hosted final performances. Therapeutic Recreation hosted an informational event on scam prevention and a monthly book club meeting.

Greenbelt Assistance in Living Program (GAIL) has hosted 12 food distributions this year, providing 24,610 pounds of food to community members.

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GREENBELT CO-OP COMMUNITY round-up

Your small change can make a **BIG** difference

Round up your total to help our community organizations!

August Round-Up Group: Greenbelt Labor Day Festival

Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred August 11-17, 2025. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an inquiry. Call the nonemergency number 301-474-7200 or email pd@greenbeltmd.gov. Times provided are when the incidents were reported.

Incident Summary

Greenbelt Police reported a mental health diversion due to overdose, and four domestic incidents, one involving a mental health diversion and two resulting in arrest. A missing man was found safe. On August 14 near 550 Crescent Road, a detective recovered eight electronic items with no owner information, which were placed into property.

On August 11 at 6:35 p.m. near 9129 Edmonston Terrace, a man delivering mail was bitten on the leg by a dog. Pictures of the injuries were taken, and an animal bite report form was completed.

Armed Robbery

On August 14 at 11:23 p.m. near 6223 Springhill Court, two men were standing outside their car in the parking lot when a car pulled up to them. Two men got out and began assaulting the first men. The men were hit repeatedly in the face with fists and handguns and were robbed of their belongings, including the keys to a silver Subaru Legacy (Md. 7GL6941). Both men sustained injuries to their faces and agreed to be taken to the hospital. Two other suspects stayed in the suspect vehicle during the robbery. The vehicle fled up Springhill Court towards Edmonston Road.

Burglary

On August 11 at 8:04 a.m. near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, desk drawers were found open and had been rummaged through. No forced entry was made. The office had no surveillance, and it is unknown whether anything was stolen.

On August 12 near 7500 Greenway Center Drive, a woman left her office on Friday, closed and locked up for the weekend. When she returned to the office on Monday, she noticed that the door to her office had pry marks on it, but didn't notice anything missing. She later observed that the petty cash that she'd left in her desk drawer on Friday was missing.

On August 15 at 10:49 a.m. near 6401 Golden Triangle Drive, someone broke into the office and stole three laptops.

Assault

On August 13 at 6:19 p.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, a woman was pushed by a panhandler after she refused to give him money.

DUI with Hit and Run, Arrest

On August 15 at 11:16 p.m. a traffic stop was conducted near the police station. The driver was found to be injured and the car

had been involved in a hit-and-run incident at the intersection of Greenbelt Road and 63rd Avenue. The driver was arrested for DUI and other related charges following the accident.

Fraud

On August 11 near 8001 Lakecrest Drive, out-of-state check fraud was found on an account.

On August 13 near 9002 Breezewood Terrace, a woman was contacted by an individual claiming to work for the L.A. County Sheriff. The woman gave the suspect her name, Social Security number and bank account information; however, so far, she has not seen any false accounts opened in her name, or any funds withdrawn.

On August 15 near 6212 Greenbelt Road, a man went to the bank and discovered that someone had taken funds from his account.

Threats

On August 15 near 7480 Greenway Center Drive, a man met someone on a dating app who was threatening to leak explicit photos of him online to his family and friends unless he paid them money.

Shoplifting and Theft

On August 11 at 12:56 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a girl was stopped after shoplifting several items. The items were returned, and she was banned from the location and released to her parent.

On August 12 at 11:41 p.m. near 121 Centerway, a man stole two bottles of alcohol from the Co-op. He was released on a criminal citation and banned.

On August 12 at 5:22 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, a man inquired about a gaming system, approached the register with it as if he were going to pay, but then turned and left without paying.

On August 13 at 5:35 p.m. near 6100 Greenbelt Road, two

teenage girls shoplifted and officers spotted them in the area. They tried to run but were caught. Most of the merchandise was returned.

On August 14 at 2:44 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, a man stole several items.

On August 15 at 9:32 a.m. near 5910 Greenbelt Road, security footage showed a woman stealing; she was arrested and banned.

Packages were stolen on August 15 near 5821 Cherrywood Lane, and near 8010 Greenbelt Station Parkway, where video footage showed a man taking a package from the lobby.

On August 15 at 10:01 p.m. near Cherrywood Terrace, a woman was talking on her cell phone when a boy attempted to snatch her phone; he then ran away in the direction of Breezewood Drive.

On August 17 at 2:29 p.m. near 7607 Greenbelt Road, someone stole several items and fled.

Vandalism

On August 12 near 300 Ridge Road, a group of teens stole fire extinguishers from the apartment complex. A maintenance worker found several buildings with fire extinguisher chemicals all over the steps.

On August 14 near Cherrywood Lane and Greenbelt Metro Drive, officers on proactive foot patrol found gang graffiti on part of the guardrail.

Vehicle Crimes Stolen Vehicles

Three Hyundais were stolen: on August 12 near 7816 Hanover Parkway, a 2016 Elantra (Okla. NZU171); and near 9100 Edmonston Road, a 2015 Sonoma (Md. 3GK9312); and on August 13 near 7302 Wintergreen Court, a 2013 Sonata (no tags).

Attempted Vehicle Theft

On August 12 at 3:39 a.m. near 408 Ridge Road, two young

men were observed breaking into a vehicle. Officers observed the following vehicles with damage: a 2011 Hyundai Sonata, a 2016 Kia Sportage, a 2014 Kia Forte and a 2014 Hyundai Elantra.

On August 14 near 416 Ridge Road, a 2018 Kia Sportage was broken into, with damage to a window, steering column and ignition switch.

On August 15 at 7:09 a.m. near 436 Ridge Road, two Hyundais were broken into but no property was taken. The rear windshield of an Accent was broken, and the ignition was tampered with. Nearby, a 2010 Elantra also had a broken window.

Theft from Auto

On August 11 near 5900 Cherrywood Terrace, all four wheels were stolen from a 2026 Acura MDX; near 6202 Breezewood Drive, airbags were stolen from a 2025 Honda Civic.

On August 14 near 2 Research Road, a disability placard was stolen.

Vandalism to Auto

On August 11 near 7823 Mandan Road, a door handle was broken on a 2014 Kia Sorrento.

On August 12 near 211 Lakeside Drive, an unlocked vehicle was rummaged through.

On August 14 near 6 Hillside Road, a vehicle had a window broken.



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Southway and Centerway

GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org

PUBLIC POLICY VOLUNTEERS

The University of Maryland's Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, in partnership with the State of Maryland, is looking for volunteers age 50+ to serve as volunteer legislative leaders during the 2025-2026 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly.

The twelve-week classroom training (two days per week) begins on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, and ends on Wednesday, December 3, 2025.

Classes will be held at the University of Maryland Extension, 8930 Stanford Blvd, Suite 25, Columbia, Md., 21045. The volunteer assignment will be in the legislative offices of members of the Maryland General Assembly in Annapolis.

Participants will serve a minimum of two (2) days per week starting Wednesday, January 14, 2026, and ending Monday, April 13, 2026.

For more information or for an application, contact Wesley Queen at wqueen@umd.edu.

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NOTICE

MISHKAN TORAH is excited to welcome you for the High Holidays this year. Rosh Hashanah is on 9/22-24 and Yom Kippur is on 10/1-2. We have a full program of services and activities for you to ring in 5786 – in person at our synagogue in Greenbelt or on Zoom. Members and non-members welcome. Learn more from our information page, available at [MishkanTorah.org](#)

HOW SAFE IS YOUR WIRING? – Ask [SaferGreenbelt.com](#)

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HOUSE SHARE SOUGHT – Greenbelter seeks economical house share. Must have easy access to public transit. 612 309-9315 or [joanest@duck.com](#).

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BOXED: \$11.50/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$17.25). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at [zellepay.com](#). Customers should direct their payments to [business@greenbeltnewsreview.com](#).

AD DESK: 301-474-4131 or [ads@greenbeltnewsreview.com](#).

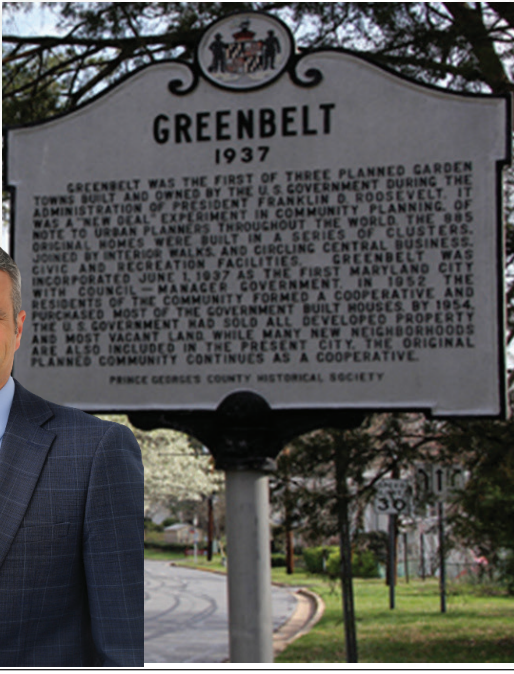
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Under Contract 14-K Ridge Rd \$208,000 2 Beds 1 Bath Mini Splits/Wide floor plan	For Sale 2-T Laurel Hill \$215,900 2 Bed 1.5 Baths Greenbelt	For Sale 7104 Ora Glen Ct \$379,000 3 Beds 2.5 Bath Greenbelt	CALL US Let Us Sell Your Home

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NASA continued from page 1

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- 17,522 participants in 274 free public programs, fostering STEM education and community connection.
- 6,223 participants from 43 states and D.C. and 17 international schools attended virtual field trips, extending NASA's reach beyond regional lines.
- 3,063 youth and adults took part in 96 onsite guided field trip programs, enriching classrooms with real-world science.
- Approximately 1,200 volunteer hours, with subject matter experts and dedicated community docents leading public engagement.

And all of it is free of charge. It's worth noting that a majority of these exhibits and programs are supported on weekends and after hours by many of Goddard's engineers, researchers and scientists when they volunteer as subject matter experts. They see it as a way to educate the public about their work and inspire future generations to value NASA's mission of world leadership in space exploration.

An Economic Resource

The Visitor Center is not simply an educational venue, it draws tens of thousands of visitors annually who support local businesses, hotels and

restaurants.

Closure of the Center would mean: Lost tourism dollars; reduced visibility for the Goddard Space Flight Center in NASA's broader mission; disconnection of local families and school systems from the U.S. space program; and a weakened ability to inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers and space leaders.

A Targeted and Punitive Move?

There is growing concern that the closure may be more than a budgetary decision. The union has yet to receive any indications of other NASA Centers closing their visitor centers. Reports the union has received suggest that this measure – like the planned closures of the Goddard Onsite Occupational Health Unit, fitness center and the onsite vending services, cafeteria and recreational center – is perceived by some employees as purposefully punitive, seemingly designed to inflict maximum institutional pain on remaining employees who chose not to voluntarily separate or resign during recent agency downsizing or restructuring. "This feels less like austerity and more like retribution," said another union member. "Rather than strengthening the agency's future, this closure alienates the very community that helped NASA thrive."

A Call to Action

The union is demanding that the closure of the Goddard Visitor Center be immediately paused pending:

1. A transparent economic and community impact study, developed in coordination with local leaders and stakeholders.
2. A community stakeholder engagement forum, hosted jointly with the union, state and local governments and NASA management.
3. Congressional oversight to investigate the underlying rationale for this closure, and to determine whether it aligns with federal public engagement mandates and the agency mission strategy.

Conclusion

The NASA Goddard Visitor Center provides a representation of NASA's paramount scientific developments and exemplifies the best of public service, scientific exploration and community engagement. To dismantle it under the guise of restructuring is to diminish the scientific accomplishments and ingenuity of American spaceflight and to abandon the communities that make these things possible.

GESTA urges members of

Congress, the Maryland General Assembly, local government throughout the DMV and all economic and educational advocacy partners to speak out, step forward and help reverse this deeply misguided decision before it's too late.

The Goddard Visitor Center provides unparalleled scientific insight into space for aspiring minds of all generations, a connection to NASA that the community embraces.

Let Goddard continue to reach for the stars – and let the community keep watching.

For further information, interviews or partnership inquiries, email contact@gesta-goddard.org or visit gesta-goddard.org.

This article was drawn from a press release from the Goddard Engineers, Scientists and Technicians Association (GESTA) IFPTE Local 29 union.

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PHOTO BY HANNAH HETHMON

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BEST WASHINGTONIAN 2025


Park and Ride the Shuttle For the Labor Day Festival

by Anne Gardner

One of the best kept secrets of the Labor Day Festival is that there is a free shuttle bus that runs all weekend between Greenbelt Elementary School (GES), Green Ridge House, Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) and the Festival grounds, with a second route stopping at Springhill Lake Recreation Center, Greenbelt Metro and the Greenbelt Station community.

It can be tough to find parking at the Festival since the main parking lot is taken over by the booths and carnival rides, and the lower parking lot by the Aquatic & Fitness Center is mostly reserved for performers and others doing Festival business, with a few additional spaces reserved for festivalgoers with disabilities.

Residents of Greenbelt Station, as well as those coming into Greenbelt on the Metro, can catch the shuttle right there, and for others it is easy to park at GES (66 Ridge Road) or ERHS (7601 Hanover Parkway) and hop



on the shuttle bus as it comes by.

At the Festival, the bus stops near the Municipal Building, which is convenient for the booths and rides. The shuttle bus service is provided by O'Brien Bus Service, and alternates between routes to pick up and drop off festivalgoers approximately every 45 minutes. Visit greenbeltlaborday.com/shuttle-bus for start and end times each day.

For wheelchair users there is another option available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday: call Greenbelt Connection at 301-474-4100 by 3 p.m. on Friday, let them know you need a chair lift, what time you would like to go and when you want to be transported back home. The Greenbelt Labor Day Committee will pick up the tab so that you can ride free. Note that this is for wheelchair users only. Other transportation will be provided from shuttle locations.

Register Now for the Art, Photo Shows; Cipriano Award Returns

by Lisa Stand

Registration is open for the Art and Photo Shows at the Labor Day Festival. The Cipriano Award will return to the Labor Day Festival Art Show this year and expand to the Photo Show. The award recognizes an entry best portraying People at Work. It memorializes one of Greenbelt's best friends, "Pop" Cipriano, who at one time worked as a carpenter for the City of Greenbelt. As always, the shows invite a wide array of art and photos in numerous categories and are especially soliciting works that are eligible for the Cipriano Award.

After filling out the registration form on the Festival website, participants should drop off their artwork and photos at the Community Center gym on Wednesday, August 27 between 5 and 8 p.m. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded and the shows will be open to the public during the Festival on Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m. and on Mon-

day, noon to 4 p.m. During those times, Festival attendees will be able to vote for their community favorites. For more information and the registration form, visit greenbeltlaborday.com.

Cipriano

Locals know the name Cipriano as a busy thoroughfare. Originally Telegraph Road, it was later renamed Cipriano Road to honor Pop, who built the original road using logs. Cipriano came to the area in 1910 and raised a family on a farm near Greenbelt. His presence and contributions to Greenbelt life were so beloved that he was named an honorary Greenbelt citizen in 1970, was honored by the Golden Age Club and featured at the groundbreaking for the new Greenbelt library. He died in 1974. Pop Cipriano was a regular fixture in Labor Day parades, known for his flower-covered cart that was drawn by his donkey. In 1972, he was honored as a Parade Marshal.

FESTIVAL continued from page 1

Saturday is Information Day and Community Exhibits, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with local groups inviting all to learn how to participate in the community. Sign language interpretation will be available from 2 to 4 p.m.; meet in front of the New Deal Café.

For kids and kids at heart, at 9:30 a.m. the Pet Show begins on the Community Center lawn sponsored by Girl Scout Troop #23007. Any kind of pet is welcome. Judging and awards begin at 10 a.m.

Several events occur at Braden Field. First up at 10 a.m. is the Diaper Derby (kids under 3). Then at 10:45 a.m., the Balloon Waddle race teeters to a start. To cool down after, the water balloon toss starts at 11:15 a.m. Then, just in time to spoil your lunch, the pie-eating contest is at 11:45 a.m. Midway booths and

bingo open at 10:30 a.m.

After some fair fare for lunch, the Photo Scavenger Hunt, Hot Shot (kids 12 and under), 2-Ball Tournament (kids under 16), and 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament (kids 13 to 17) happen one after the other starting at 1 p.m. in the Youth Center.

At 1 p.m., Festival favorites Fast Eddie and the Slowpokes take the stage, followed by La Marvela bringing the richness of Colombian Caribbean rhythms at 3 p.m.; Soroche brings an exotic sonic brew at 4:30; followed by Professor Goldstein & the Adjuncts, a 7-piece party rock group from Hyattsville at 6:30. One of the hottest rock bands in Maryland, The Moran Tripp Band, closes out the night from 8:30 to 11 p.m.

The rest of the all-day activities such as bingo and the booths close at 10 p.m.

Residents of Greenbelt: Register To Vote for the 2025 City Election

by Will Hammann

Greenbelt residents must be registered to vote to make their voice heard in the race for the seven seats on the Greenbelt City Council in this fall's city election.

This is the first city election in which noncitizen residents can vote, following a council vote in September 2024 to amend the city charter to allow it. Residents 16 and 17 years old may also vote thanks to a similar charter amendment passed in January 2018.

Residents who are U.S. citizens must be 16 or older and have lived within the incorporated city limits of Greenbelt for more than 30 days before the registration deadline of October 6. They can register for city elections by mailing the Maryland state voter registration form to the Prince George's County Board of Elections, or in person at the Board of Elections, offices of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration and several other state offices. Registration can also be



done online using Maryland's online voter registration system.

Residents who are already registered to vote in the state of Maryland do not need to re-register to vote in the city elections.

Noncitizen residents must be 16 or older and have lived in Greenbelt for at least 21 days before October 15, the deadline for noncitizen registration.

The City of Greenbelt provides its own voter registration form in English, Spanish and French (see greenbeltmd.gov/191/Voter-Registration). Besides basic information, the form requires proof of residence which can be in the form of any federal, state

or local government identification card such as a driver's license or even school ID with photo. Alternatively, residence in Greenbelt can be proven with documentation such as a copy of a lease or bank statement, or some form of government document that shows the resident's name and Greenbelt address.

If neither form of proof can be produced, applicants may submit an affidavit, which can be found at the bottom of the form, attesting to their residence in Greenbelt under penalty of perjury.

The coming election will occur on Tuesday, November 4, and registered voters may vote at any polling location in the city (see greenbeltmd.gov/179/Election-Precincts), regardless of the precinct of residence.

For questions on voter registration, contact the County Board of Elections at 301-341-7300 or the Greenbelt city clerk's office at 301-474-8000.

Greenbelters Travel



Abby, Ed and Ravens Crowley take a News Review break at a North Carolina roadside attraction.



Andrea and her dog, Higgins, hike in Acadia National Park in Maine with Andrea's cousin and friends.



Carol Griffith visits the home of TV character Doc Martin in Port Isaac, Cornwall, with her News Review.



Adena Galinsky, Raphael Galinsky-Kramer and Joel Kramer (photographer) went to Iceland for a family wedding and trekked to many waterfalls, including this one, Seljalandsfoss.



The News Review at Moraine Lake in Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada. From left: Samantha Villanueva, Rio Endozo, Takeo Endozo and Chris Endozo



The News Review also traveled with the Galinsky-Kramers to Vestmannaeyjar, where they saw puffins!

